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Emigration to Kansas.

Statement of a Land Commissioner to the Bureau of Migration.

At the meeting of the National Bureau of Migration at Philadelphia, March 1, after a speech from Horace Greeley, which has been fully published, L. T. Goodnow, Land Commissioner of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad, made the following statement concerning Kansas and its attractions to emigrants:

GENTLEMEN OF THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF MIGRATION: I am called very suddenly and unexpectedly to address you upon the inducements of emigration to Kansas, and especially to the lands along the line of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railway. It is unnecessary to state what everybody knows, that at the present time Kansas is attracting more earnest attention than any other State or Territory in or out of the Union. Since the close of the war, in settling up and improving the country, in building up towns and cities, organizing schools, building schoolhouses, in educating teachers and practical men and women for the various vocations of life, Kansas is without a parallel. Minerva-like, she has sprung forth full-grown, and ready armed for the great battles of this marvellous age. Eleven years old as a State, in railroads, in the substantial comforts of life, in schools, in the religious and intellectual character of its inhabitants, it is as far advanced as other States have been at 30 years of age. In fact, to-day the school system of the State is second to none in the Union. Beside the common and graded schools, we have the Normal School, the Agricultural College, and the State University—all well endowed and in a flourishing condition. That the building of 1,300 miles of railroads has had to do with this wonderful development, the dullest mind will readily comprehend, and within the last two years especially has the completion of 500 miles of road by the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railway Company through the Great Neosho Valley and its connections added four-fold to the spirit of progress and to healthful emigration. In the older States railroads follow as a necessity after the settling up of the country; in Kansas they precede emigration as a means of settling the country. Our settlers, in a large degree, are made up of the most intelligent, moral, industrious, and energetic men and women of the various States of the Union, with a fair representation of the foreign element, drawn hither by the great struggle for freedom in our early history. A people who will sacrifice the comfort of Eastern homes and risk life for a principle to build up a new State and consecrate it to the cause of freedom, can but be both intelligent and Christian, and a good people to live among.

I understand the design of this Board of Emigration is to select some special point, or town site with its surroundings for settlement, and then turn the tide of emigration hither till it is properly occupied, when another locality is to be chosen and disposed of in the same way, and so on till all of the most desirable lands in each of the several Western States are duly occupied, and each has in the end its proper share of attention on the part of this Association. As you, gentlemen of this Bureau of Migration, in your wisdom have seen fit to bestow your first attentions upon the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railway Company, which I have the honor to represent, it may be proper and indeed a necessity this evening, to call your special attention to the lands along the line of our road in the Great Neosho Valley. Aside from its remarkable fertility, this valley is noted for its great width, which is very aptly described by a wit as "two hundred miles long and four hundred miles wide." Along and near this valley in the counties of Davis, Morris, Chase, Lyon, Coffey, Anderson, Allen, Woodson, Neosho, and Labette, we have a million of acres; while off of the immediate line, in the counties of Cloud, Riley, Wabaunse, Dickinson, Osage, Butler, and Greenwood, we have several hundred thousand acres. Our Congress grant of lands takes the unoccupied odd sections of lands for a strip on each side of the road ten miles in width, and to supply the loss from settlement we have an indemnity grant of the odd and even sections of the strip ten miles in width on each side of the first belt of 20 miles width; making in all a belt of 40 miles wide, less the tracts taken by early settlers. Our State grant is selected lands near and off the line of our road. These lands constitute some of the richest and most inviting of all the lands of the Great West open for settlement; thousands of acres of these have just been put upon the market. They consist of rich bottoms, level, undulating, and rolling prairie, usually convenient to wood and stone, spring, creek, or river water. Interspersed among cultivated tracts, and lying in large bodies, they present inducements to families and neighborhood settlements, and to large colonies, possessed by no other lands in the State. While the lands of other corporations have been culled by the 250,000 settlers of the last four years, ours in the main have been preserved intact.

The soil is a black mould, with a clay subsoil. Along the streams and rivers, this mould is from two to six feet deep, and on the uplands, usually from one to two feet. Its richness seems inexhaustible. Corn land, planted continuously since 1835, shows no signs of failure. One-half the labor required at the East will here insure double the crop. In favorable seasons, the crop of sod-corn will pay for the breaking. This crop is raised with only the labor of a boy, who drops the corn right after the plow in every third or fourth furrow, and this yields all the way from nothing to 40 bushels to the acre, according to the season. One year rots the sod, and the second year it should produce from 40 to 70 bushels to the acre of corn, 20 to 40 of wheat, 50 to 75 of oats, 50 to 300 of potatoes, and other crops in proportion. The high rolling prairie is the finest wheat land in the world, and when plowed deeply produces corn nearly as well as bottom land. For small grains in general, small fruits, and grape culture, it is well adapted, and especially for orchards. On the sides of the bluffs and in the roughest places the grape is produced in luxurious profusion. Thus for the choicest fruits and for pastures most of our rough lands can be profitably used. Numerous conversations with our intelligent farmers result in the following conclusion: that take one year with another, reckoning health and everything else, the man who farms prairie land will come out ahead of the farmer upon bottom land.

We have cotton wood, hackberry, locust, oak, hickory, pecan, elm, maple, black walnut, and sycamore hid away in ravines, and upon the large rivers and creeks. The prairie fires alone have kept the trees from covering the entire country. With a fair chance our trees grow rapidly, and to-day we have more of them than ten years ago. Our cheapest and most durable fence is the Osage orange hedge; in three or four years it will turn stock. It can be set, cultivated, and warranted for 35 cents per rod. After numerous experiments, Prof. Turner, of Jacksonville, Illinois, asserts that land hedged in 40-acre fields, allowing a strip two rods in width for the hedge, will bear more grain than the whole surface sown without hedge. This is due to the moisture retained by the Osage orange. Next to this, wire fence is the cheapest, the material costing some 50 or 60 cents per rod. Again, within convenient distance of most quarter-sections, nicely stowed away in economical places, a fine quality of limestone furnishes superior material for the construction of fencing, houses, and stables. But better than all this, from the action of our Kansas Legislature and the growing public sentiment of the State, we look for a Herd law which will compel men to herd their cattle, leaving the farmer to cultivate his land without the heavy expense of time and money to barricade his own crops against the attacks of his neighbors' cattle. If either cattle or crops must be fenced, most assuredly would we decide for the former. Every man ought to have and enjoy the products of his own land without being compelled to fence them. To open farms in Ohio, Michigan, and New York formerly required a life-time of the severest toil in cutting down the trees and rooting out the stumps to bring the ground to the present condition of our Kansas lands, now all ready for the plow. While most of our railroad lands have no timber, what little may really be needed can be bought of the earliest settlers, who were very careful to secure all the timber possible. This will usually cost the new settler less than to buy timbered lands, at prices now demanded. Timber can be easily and rapidly grown, and, as a crop, would pay well in furnishing ties to the railroad company. To any purchaser of 160 acres of land who will, within five years, plant and cultivate five acres of timber, I am authorized by our company, when we execute the deed for the land, to give the five acres of land. At Neosho Falls (the place of our General Land Office) native lumber sells at from $22 to $30 per M.; shingles, from $3.50 to $4.50; pine lumber, from $22.50 to $65; pine shingles, from $4.50 to $6. At the same place, wood sells for $3 per cord.

Coal is found in abundance along the line of the road, and can be furnished to settlers at reasonable rates. Good wells can be had at from twelve to forty feet depth. Springs of the finest quality are numerous. Our lands are watered by the Neosho, Osage, Cottonwood, Walnut, Labette, Verdigris, and Fall Rivers; Clark's, Lyon, McDowell, Humboldt, Mill, Deep, Rock, Diamond, Allen, Coal, Salt, Turkey, Elm, Wolf, Indian, and Hickory Creeks, with their hundreds of branches too numerous to mention. These constitute a natural system of water-works for supplying man and beast with a health-giving beverage, and drain the country of what is not needed. While France has twenty-five inches of rain per annum, Kansas has thirty-one inches. This is less than in Western New York, but the quantity is greater in Kansas when most needed. For instance, in the spring we have twelve inches, while in Western New York the fall is only ten inches, but in autumn it is two inches more. In winter, New York has seven inches rainfall in rain and snow, while Kansas has but three inches. During this season, when in New York it is cloudy, cold, wet, and uncomfortable for out-door work, in Kansas it is usually dry and pleasant, suitable for business nearly the entire winter. Two years ago the farmers plowed every month during the winter, but this winter has been unusually cold; indeed, it is stated from personal knowledge as the coldest for seventeen years. The climate of Kansas is excellent, and this constitutes one of its chief attractions. The dryness and purity of its atmosphere render it peculiarly favorable to consumptives and those suffering from bronchial diseases. For catarrhal affections it is a specific. Many persons given up to die in New England enjoy comfortable health in Kansas. Its natural drainage is the finest in the world. The low marshes and the green, stagnant pools of Southern Indiana and Illinois are rarely seen, and while bilious diseases are common to most new countries, and to Kansas, in some degree, yet with proper care they can be avoided. People who will live upon low bottoms beyond the reach of the prairie breezes may expect, till acclimated, chills and fever, "with a touch of the blues." hottest days of summer are wonderfully moderated by a cooling breeze. The nights are generally cool and furnish refreshing sleep to the weary laborer, in marked contrast to the sweltering nights of our Eastern summers. The rich native grasses of our prairies, with the large area of unoccupied lands, in connection with our mild and open winters, furnish the greatest advantages for raising sheep, cattle, and horses. While some feed their stock but very little, the good farmer will always provide hay for the few cold "snaps," and the damp, wet "spells," and the occasional snow-storms to which we are subject. With machinery, hay can be put up at $2 per ton. Stock-raising is one of our most remunerative employments. An intelligent, industrious man can double his money every three years. Our Kentucky emigrants claim that our lands are similar to those of the famous Blue Grass region of their own native State. Cows are worth from $25 to $50; oxen, from $75 to $125; horses, from $50 to $200; pigs, eight weeks old, from $2 to $3; sheep, from $2 to $5. With pasturage almost limitless, the production of butter and cheese can but be profitable. But is worth from 20 to 50 cents, and cheese from 15 to 25 cents per pound. Regular manufactories for cheese have been established on an extensive scale with the milk of one hundred cows, making occasionally cheese of the weight of one hundred and twenty-five pounds each, but commonly not more than sixty pounds. Fruit-growing is one of our specialties, as demonstrated by the gold medal awarded to our State by the Pennsylvania State Horticultural Society for "a collection of fruits unsurpassed in size, beauty, and flavor," and as exhibited in this city in the fall of 1869. The peach crop of 1871 was remarkable. One farmer within four miles of our land office claims that he had 2,000 bushels. The pear and apple crops of the last year also were a success, and took the first premium from Missouri and other States. Small fruits, such as currants, gooseberries, blackberries, strawberries, plums, and cherries yield abundantly. Grapes are here in their glory, and our numerous and well-established vineyards demonstrate that it is the home of the grape. They provide our chief luxuries, and are a source of great profit.

Our lands vary in price, according to quality and distance from railroad, from $2 to $10 per acre; and our terms of sale are one-tenth down, interest the second year; and one-tenth, with annual interest each year afterward till all is paid. For the first 500 families we propose to grant special privileges: 1st., in the reduction of fare and freight over the line of our road; 2d., in a reduction of price of land, and to those who build a free gift of lots in the town of Skiddy. This town is situated upon Clark's creek, at the proposed junction of the great Northern line of railroad from Omaha, Lincoln and Manhattan, with the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad, to constitute the great highway to the Gulf and the Rio Grande. In four townships 12 miles square, with Skiddy near the centre, we own 40,000 acres of land, most of which has just come into market. It is a new town, with depot and two stores and a few buildings, and can be made a good manufacturing and business place. It is in a fertile, healthful region. Most especially shall we welcome the hardy farmer and the ingenious, industrious mechanic.

After a speech by Samuel R. Wells, Secretary of the Bureau, the following resolutions were passed:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this meeting that whereas the Hon. Horace Greeley, on account of his earnest efforts for the establishment of the National Bureau of Migration, is the right man in the right place while acting as its President, and that we deprecate his withdrawal from that position for only such reasons as he has given, to wit: that his connection with the Bureau is a cause of wanton attacks upon it and him; and we earnestly request him to retain the office.

Resolved, That this Bureau appoint a committee, of which Wells W. Leggett, one of its Directors, shall be Chairman, to wait upon the officers of the Department at Washington, to obtain fuller information as to the views of Government concerning the national interests of emigration, and to ask its co-operation, as far as consistent with those views, in the work of the Bureau.

Resolved, That this meeting approve of the statements made this evening by Mr. L. T. Goodnow, Land Commissioner of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railroad.

Resolved, That this Bureau appoint a committee, of which the Hon. Wm. D. Kelley shall be Chairman, to mature a plan for colony settlements in different parts of Pennsylvania and for procuring cheap and comfortable homesteads in and around Philadelphia.

Resolved, That this meeting earnestly petition the National Congress to speedily grant a bill of incorporation for the National Bureau of Migration, and in connection therewith a National Emigrants' Savings Bank Exchange and Trust Company.

Resolved, That this meeting approves of the plans and objects of the National Bureau of Migration as explained this evening, and commend it to the good will and co-operation of the public.

Resolved, That this meeting approves of the National Bureau of Migration having an office in Philadelphia as one of its principal offices.

Resolved, That the next public meeting of the Bureau shall be held in Boston, in behalf of colonies on the Northern Pacific Railroad. Shortly after a similar meeting will be held at Charleston concerning Southern colonies.

[From the San Francisco Elevator]

Emigration of Colored People.

"The colored people in Madison and Macoupin counties, Illinois, have, it is reported, made extensive preparations for emigrating to the States bordering upon the Lower Mississippi and Gulf of Mexico."

We copy the above from the NEW NATIONAL ERA, for the purpose of pointing out the facilities which California offers to colored immigrants. The climate of this State is of more equal temperature than any of the States referred to, especially in the middle portion. In the Southern part we have not the excessive heat of the same latitudes in the Atlantic States, neither have we the intense cold in the North. There is no State in the Union in which such variety of crops can be raised. All the tropical fruits are indigenous in California, and for seed and pit fruits this State stands unrivalled. The same can be said of grain and vegetables. The exotics, such as cotton and tobacco, can be brought to perfection; and grapes grow almost spontaneous.

While land in some parts of the State, owing to monopolists and land-grabbers, is high, still there are good sections of public lands open to pre-emption in accessible districts. Senator Cole's bill, of which we give the text, secures all the right of settlement and ownership.

Nearly all the onerous and proscriptive laws have been repealed; only one now remaining—the obnoxious school law; and if the prejudice and obstinacy of our Democratic Senate persists in retaining that law on the statute books, the integrity of the Constitution will be maintained by the interposition of the United States Courts.

The colored people of Illinois could do much better by immigrating to California than by going to the Gulf States. A wide field is here open to the freedmen. They are accustomed to agricultural labor, and all could secure comfortable homes. The only obstacle is the expense of passage, and if an immigration society was formed for the purpose of aiding them, we believe many of our wealthy citizens would contribute means to forward the enterprise.

The following is the bill presented by Senator Cole:

THE PUBLIC LANDS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That every citizen now residing upon the public lands of the United States, or who may hereafter settle upon such lands, shall be held, and deemed to be, in law, the owner of the same: *Provided, however*, That his or her possessions do not exceed in extent one hundred and sixty acres of agricultural land and fitted for cultivation; or six hundred and forty acres of land, if the same be used for pasturage or timber only; or forty acres, if the same be known as placer mining lands.

SEC. 2. That every person occupying the public lands of the United States as provided in the preceding section, shall, after two years of actual and continuous possession, if the same be agricultural or pasture lands, be entitled to a patent for the same from the United States, free from all costs and charge whatsoever; and if timber land, or placer mining lands, or other mineral land, at the rate or price now prescribed by law.

SEC. 3. That none of the public agricultural, pasture, timber, or placer mining lands of the United States shall be disposed of otherwise than as is in this act provided.

SEC. 4. That all agricultural, pasture, timber, mineral, and other public lands of the United States, except reservations for Government purposes, whether surveyed by the United States authorities, or unsurveyed, or whether offered by the Government or not, if the same remains uncovered by patent, shall be free and open to occupation and settlement, and shall be subject to the provisions of this act, any former act of Congress relating to the same to the contrary notwithstanding.

The First Photograph.

It has been generally taken for granted that the discovery of photography dates back only to the year 1839, when Daguerre in France and Talbot in England published the results of their investigations. It appears probable, however, that the art was discovered and practically applied by Matthew Boulton, partner of the celebrated James Watt, as long ago as the close of the last century, and was then allowed to fall into neglect, and be forgotten. Boulton belonged to a secret scientific society, which was accustomed to meet at his house. He died in 1808; and on the subsequent examination and removal of the vast collection of documents stored in his library, there were found a number of crumbled and folded sheets of paper with pictures on them of the most puzzling kind. On smoothing out those pictures they were found to consist of copies, on large sheets of very coarse paper of certain well-known designs by Kaufman—the porous water-marked paper being thickly coated with some varnish-like substance, on the surface of which the picture had been produced. All the sheets found in the library, as well as others afterwards discovered, presented the same characteristics—a glossy surface, with minute varnish-like cracks, the drawings of the figures most elaborately finished, the lights and shades so fully rendered as to give much the effect of a mezzotint, and an invariable reversal of the position of the figures. Further research also led to the discovery of two silver-metal plates, about the size of a sheet of note paper, precisely resembling in appearance those used by Daguerre in the early days of photography. On each of these plates was a faint image of Boulton's house, so unmistakably taken from nature, and so evidently produced by the aid of light, that experts at once pronounced them to be photographic pictures, taken directly by means of a camera. Attached to these plates was a memoranda stating that they were "sun pictures," representing the house prior to certain alterations made in 1791. All these facts led to the inevitable conclusion that the discoveries of Daguerre were anticipated by Boulton. Watt, it is well known, was the true father of the steam-engine, which, in his hands, first became a machine of real, practical value; and it is a curious fact that a discovery of almost equal importance, in a wholly different field of scientific research, should have been made by the man associated with him as a partner in business.

—The *Tribune* says: "An astonishing rumor has recently prevailed in Virginia, the purport of it being that the Governor is about to appoint 'four hundred Colonels of militia,' which would give two or three dozen Colonels to every regiment. The Petersburg *Progress* says that of Colonels alone, in Virginia, regular and honorary, there cannot be less already than 10,000, including members of the Legislature, newspaper reporters, lawyers, sheriffs, and other public men, whose acknowledged right it is to be thus dubbed. If this sort of thing continues as it is now going on in all the States, plain 'Mister' will be the most exclusive and distinguished title which a man can bear."

The Art of Thinking.

Is thinking an art to be acquired? Are not all men endowed with the power of thought? Is there anything more necessary than for one to close his eyes and let his mind have free course in order to think? To answer these questions, it is necessary to define what is meant by thought. If day-dreaming, that act of mind in which thought roves at random, purposely and without effort, is thought, then the idiot thinks in his poor fashion. There are no rules applicable to this sort of thinking. But much indulgence in this kind of dreamy thinking weakens the mind and begets a mental laziness that is fatal to progress. It benumbs all but the purely animal faculties and instincts. It is, therefore, to be deprecated in the strongest terms. It has proved and will yet prove the ruin of many a promising youth.

The kind of thought worthy the name, which strengthens instead of weakening the mind, is what we mean when we speak of thinking as an art. This kind of thought is the pleasant labor rather than the luxurious ease of the mind. It is only perfect when under complete subjection to will.

The first great thing in learning to think is to learn to bring thought under subjection to will. There has been a great deal said about the importance of gaining mastery over our animal passions, propensities, and emotions. Many an earnest prayer for help to conquer these fleshly lusts has been breathed. The fact is, however, that with minds trained to perfect subservience, the passions can have but little sway. It is unrestrained imagination that kindles the fires of passion. Cool blood generally goes with cool heads.

Too much stress cannot be laid on the fundamental importance of perfect command over thought. How many a student finds the lack of this power a chief hindrance to progress! How many a page must be reread, how many a lesson must be conned over and over to compensate for lapses of thought! In the possession or absence of this power over mind, lies the chief difference between mental strength and mental weakness. Some men think as a child plays with a hammer, striking little blows here, there, anywhere, at any object within reach. The action of a strong mind may be compared to the stonebreaker's sledge-hammer, dealing stubborn blows successively upon one spot till the hard rock cracks and yields.

When this command over thought has been acquired through the long exercise of resolute will, the power to arrange ideas and think systematically will come with it, and no thinking amounts to much unless it is systematic. This, then, may be considered the second important acquirement in the art of thinking.

The power to classify and arrange ideas in proper order is one that comes more or less slowly to even the best of minds. In proportion as this faculty is strengthened, desultory and wasted efforts diminish. When the mind acts, it acts to some purpose, and can begin where it leaves off, without going over the whole ground to take up the threads of its ratiocinations.

Concentration and system are thus seen to be chief elements in the art of thinking. To cultivate the first constant watchfulness to detect the least wandering and the immediate exertion of the will to call back and hold the mind upon the subject under consideration should be vigilantly exercised. To secure the latter the practice of analyzing and considering the different parts of the subject, first separately, then in their different relations toward each other, is a discipline to which every young mind should be subjected, and which, we are sorry to say, is much neglected in the methods of instruction practiced in this country.—*Scientific American.*

—The Brooklyn Common Council on Tuesday adopted a resolution, "That no railroad company in the city of Brooklyn shall require any passenger to pay fare unless such passenger shall be provided with a seat." The author of the resolution said he introduced it to enable the railroad companies "to fight it out with the public." An amendment that every person stepping on the cars aftey they are full should be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor was not agreed to. As the resolution really gives passengers, who are standing in the car, the privilege of riding for nothing, the conductors may expect to have a lively time collecting fare from the "standees," should people feel disposed to act upon a literal construction of the resolution. If it had provided that no payment should be exacted on a conductor failing to notify a passenger that the seats were all filled, and thus left it optional with him to enter the car or not, there would have been some reason in it. It is not to be supposed that the city railroad companies will carry every person for nothing who thinks proper to enter after the seats are occupied, and so the President of the Brooklyn City Railroad Company has expressed himself. The crowded condition of a car is frequently owing to people being too impatient to wait a minute or two, and not to the insufficient number of cars on the route.

—The Rev. Abraham B. Carter, Rector of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Savior, has evinced a moral heroism which entitles him to the gratitude of the upright and pure. A beautiful young woman, who had attended his ministrations and called on him in his vestry-room under pretense of seeking spiritual instruction and guidance, wrote him a letter in which he is charged with seducing her, then promising her $1,000 to hush up the scandal of the crime, paying $700 of it by installments, then declining to pay the rest, which she demanded under penalty of exposure and prosecution. A coward, however innocent, would have paid the money, knowing how ready are the vile to believe any charge of licentiousness, especially one aimed at a clergyman. But Mr. Carter, strong in his innocence, at once assumed the offensive, charged his accuser with an attempt to black-mail, had her arrested and cited before a magistrate; whereupon she collapsed, begged for mercy, and was permitted by the justice to go with her father, but with the charge still impending over her. Such women as this are, happily, rare; but such men as Mr. Carter are, unfortunately, not so common as they should be. We are sure Mr. C. must enjoy the consciousness of having faithfully fulfilled an important duty from which too many would have recoiled.

—It has been frequently stated that on account of the sales of arms frequently made by the War Department, in case this country should become involved in war, we should be able to put but a very insignificant volunteer force in the field on account of the want of arms. On the contrary, we are able to state, on authority, that in case of war this Government could within a few days arm at least 500,000 volunteers with first-class arms, the majority with the most effective breach-loader in existence. The Administration has carefully guarded against the possibility of not being prepared with a full supply of arms and ammunition in case of need, and this fact is accessible to all who choose to take the trouble to inquire about it.

—It is said that two men are heavily ironed and chained to the floor in a house at Arnold Station, Mo., waiting to be seized with madness. They have been bitten by a dog supposed to have been rabid, and their considerate friends have put them in bondage before any symptoms of hydrophobia have appeared through fear that they may do them some personal injury when the paroxysm comes. If they do not become mad it will not be through the fault of their friends, who are evidently doing all they can to reduce them to that condition.

—Hay is now selling in Portland, Oregon, for $38 a ton, and oats are worth more than wheat, and yet they can raise more hay and oats to the acre than you can in Pennsylvania, and on land that does not cost one-quarter as much. This is simply owing to the want of profitable intercourse with the rest of mankind.

Drawing it Mild.

When Senator Schurz made his ferocious assault on the Secretary of War for an alleged violation of law in selling arms to American citizens who afterwards sold them to the agents of France, it was supposed that he really had some evidence on which his malicious charges were based. It seems, however, that all his florid rhetoric was inspired by the loose, uncertain statements of irresponsible parties, whose names he is ashamed to mention. If the eloquent Senator would come over to Baltimore some day when a "whiskey ring" case is being tried in the United States District Court, we would undertake to point out to him three or four gentlemen who will undertake to furnish him more evidence than he wants for a small compensation and on short notice. They have already furnished the data on which the New York *Sun* has convicted President Grant, Secretary Delano, Postmaster General Creswell, and several other officers of the Government, of perjury, bribery, and illimitable larceny. They would make short work with the "arms scandal," and it is singular that up to this time they have escaped the notice of the Senators who are so sorely pressed for testimony to make out a case against the Secretary of War.

But to return to Mr. Schurz. The Chairman of the Arms Investigating Committee applied to the Senator, who had declaimed so loudly about the alleged breach of the neutrality laws, for such evidence as he had in his possession, and this is his reply:

WASHINGTON, March 7, 1872.

"*Sir:* I have received your letter requesting me to furnish the committee over which you preside any and all evidence in my possession or knowledge which will aid the committee in its inquiry. I desire to say in reply that in the speeches I delivered in the Senate on the subject in question I stated a series of facts and circumstances justifying the belief or at least the suspicion that great wrong had been done in connection with the sale of arms. The statements are printed in the *Globe*, and are before the committee, and I can only add that I to-day believe every allegation I made in my speeches to be correct, and that they are sufficiently supported by documentary evidence to form the basis of an inquiry, and to guide a committee desiring to make a thorough investigation.

"Aside from this, information has come to me from various quarters in a more or less definite shape, partly under the seal of personal confidence. This information I cannot present as evidence, because it can only become such by the examination of witnesses. The witnesses to be examined in this case will almost all be unwilling witnesses, and their testimony will in a great measure depend upon the manner of their examination where one point will suggest another. If in this proceeding I could properly be permitted to examine, myself, such witnesses as I could name in the course of the investigation, then I am confident I should be able to prove the correctness of all the allegations made in my speeches and the conclusions drawn therefrom, but since against all parliamentary usage those who advocated the investigation and may be presumed to have devoted some attention to the case have been excluded from the committee, I should prefer not to appear as taking part in the proceedings of the committee while I can in reality not exercise any influence upon its action.

"Respectfully yours,
"C. SHURZ.

"Hon. HANNIBAL HAMLIN,
Chairman Committee of Investigation.
[*Baltimore American.*

The Blairs.

"Gath," the Washington correspondent of the Chicago *Tribune*, writes:

It is a sight to see the Blair family in this District. Frank is now a total-abstinence man, and, consequently, has made fewer speeches of the wild sort than before he took the pledge. He has toned up and improved, and believes that the Democratic party ought to go in to win, if necessary with Gratz Brown, or anybody who can beat the old-line Republicans. Montgomery Blair, although he has gone over to the Democracy, retains the esteem and confidence of very many Republicans, and he officiated at the wedding of Secretary Robeson. Almost every Sunday, the long, wiry body, and military head of Montgomery Blair can be seen descending from his residence on the avenue, nearly opposite the President's, to mount a fine horse standing there, and then, with a touch of his spur, his long cloak waving in the wind or snow, Montgomery dashes off to dine with his aged father and mother. Perhaps, on the following day, they will be all seen galloping to Washington together—Mrs. Blair with snow-white hair waving in puffs, and a pair of spectacles over nose, resting like a girl, at 70 years of age; while Jackson's old editor, her spouse, with a low-crowned Quaker hat, long brown coat falling almost to the feet, and spurs, his face tanned like sole leather with years and wrinkles, so that it resembles a dark variety of beef tripe, rides along gently, with a crooked bamboo stick under his arm, nearly at the height of himself; and, when he descends into the city, he takes the stick, and, catching it near the top, so that his hand is above his shoulder, the old gentleman moves steadily along, looking to the ground. There is scarcely any family in the country with the tenacity of life and purpose of these Blairs. Next door to Montgomery's city residence, Mrs. Admiral Lee, the daughter of the old Blairs', resides comfortably. Her husband is a good seaman and a genial man.

—A Boston correspondent of the Chicago *Journal* says that twenty-seven years ago there was only one man in Boston worth as much as $4,000,000; two worth $2,000,000 each, two $1,500,000 each, and six $1,000,000 each. All these men are now dead, and but one inherited property. Out of the nine men who were worth $500,000 each, one survives, and he obtained his fortune by marriage; and of the two hundred worth a round $100,000, only nine survive. The fortunes of almost every one of the parties have been lost or divided among their children. It was about a quarter of a century ago that the first attempt was made to classify the richest men of the city under the head of "aristocracy," and "yearling aristocracy," the latter constituting that class which had plenty of money, but no manners nor brains. In those days men did not assume the character of a colossal Dragon of rascality to get rich suddenly by stealing an entire savings bank, but their wealth came honestly. There is at the present time in Boston one man worth $18,000,000; another worth $8,000,000; a half dozen worth $5,000,000 each, and not a few one, two, and three millions. The Bible strongly reminds us that man "heapeth up riches, but cannot tell who shall gather them." Perhaps the next generation of children heir apparent may either dig clams, if boys, or make cheap shirts, if girls.

—About this time twelve months the Senate was engaged in an angry discussion on the Santo Domingo question, (don't be alarmed—we have no intention to revive it,) and certain gentlemen, whom it is unnecessary to name, told us that "the usurper Baez was maintained in power by the guns of United States men-of-war." Well, the men-of-war have been withdrawn, our flag has been hauled down at Santa Barbara de Samana, but somehow there has been no revolution in the Republic of Santo Domingo, and Baez is President still. In fact, so far from his power and influence being on the decline, a dispatch informs us that he is stronger than ever he was, and is at present engaged in taking towns and executing traitors and rebels, while Cabral, who Mr. Sumner believes has the greatest majority of the people with him, is in the mountains, his whole force amounting to only two thousand men, inactive for want of funds and ammunition. It cannot certainly be American guns that are now keeping Baez in power and Cabral out of it.—*Washington Republican.*

THE UNION REPUBLICAN PARTY.

Official Call for the Convention to Meet in Philadelphia, June 5, to Nominate Candidates for President and Vice President.

The undersigned, constituting the National Committee designated by the Convention held at Chicago on the 20th of May, 1868, hereby call a convention of the Union Republican party at the city of Philadelphia, on Wednesday, the fifth day of June next, at 12 o'clock noon, for the purpose of nominating candidates for the offices of President and Vice President of the United States.

Each State is authorized to be represented in the Convention by delegates equal to twice the number of Senators and Representatives to which it will be entitled in the next National Congress, and each organized Territory is authorized to send two delegates.

In calling this Convention, the Committee remind the country that the promises of the Union Republican Convention of 1868 have been fulfilled. The States lately in rebellion have been restored to their former relations to the Government. The laws of the country have been faithfully executed, public faith has been preserved, and the national credit firmly established. Government economy has been illustrated, by the reduction, at the same time, of the public debt and of taxation, and the funding of the national debt at a lower rate of interest has been successfully inaugurated. The rights of naturalized citizens have been protected by treaties, and immigration encouraged by liberal provisions. The defenders of the Union have been gratefully remembered, and the rights and interests of labor recognized. Laws have been enacted, and are being enforced, for the protection of persons and property in all sections. Equal suffrage has been engrafted on the national Constitution; the privileges and immunities of American citizenship have become a part of the organic law, and a liberal policy has been adopted toward all who engaged in the rebellion. Complications in foreign relations have been adjusted in the interest of peace throughout the world, while the national honor has been maintained. Corruption has been exposed, offenders punished, responsibility enforced, safeguards established, and now, as heretofore, the Republican party stands pledged to correct all abuses and carry out all reforms necessary to maintain the purity and efficiency of the public service. To continue and firmly establish its fundamental principles, we invite the co-operation of all the citizens of the United States.

WILLIAM CLAFLIN, of Massachusetts, Chairman.
WILLIAM E. CHANDLER, of New Hampshire, Secretary.
JOHN A. PETERS, Maine.
LUKE P. POLAND, Vermont.
L. B. FRIEZE, Rhode Island.
H. H. STARKWEATHER, Connecticut.
JAMES GOPSILL, New Jersey.
WILLIAM H. KEMBLE, Pennsylvania.
HOWARD M. JENKINS, Delaware.
B. R. COWEN, Ohio.
JOHN COBURN, Indiana.
C. B. FARWELL, Illinois.
ZACHARIAH CHANDLER, Michigan.
J. T. AVERILL, Minnesota.
DAVID ATWOOD, Wisconsin.
GEORGE W. MCCRARY, Iowa.
C. C. FULTON, Maryland.
FRANKLIN STEARNS, Virginia.
JOHN HUBBARD, West Virginia.
WILLIAM SLOAN, North Carolina.
THOS. W. OSBORNE, Florida.
L. C. CARPENTER, South Carolina.
JOHN H. CALDWELL, Georgia.
JAMES P. STOW, Alabama.
M. H. SOUTHWORTH, Louisiana.
A. C. FISK, Mississippi.
S. C. POMEROY, Kansas.
B. F. RICE, Arkansas.
JOHN B. CLARK, Missouri.
A. A. BURTON, Kentucky.
HORACE MAYNARD, Tennessee.
E. B. TAYLOR, Nebraska.
JAMES W. NYE, Nevada.
H. W. CORBETT, Oregon.
GEORGE C. GORHAM, California.
JOHN B. CHAFFEE, Colorado.
W. A. BURLEIGH, Dakota.
SAYLES J. BOWEN, District of Columbia.
WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 11, 1872.

Call for a National Convention of the Colored People of the United States.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Jan. 22, 1872.

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted by the "Southern States Convention of Colored Men," which convened in this city on the 18th day of October, 1871:

Whereas, the time fixed for the assembling of this Convention was very unfortunate, owing to the important canvasses going on in several of the Southern States, and the inability of many good men to attend, in consequence of the same; and whereas, many prominent colored men disapproved of said call, because they considered it sectional; therefore be it

Resolved, That the President of this Convention be, and is hereby, authorized to call a National Convention of the colored people of the United States, to meet at the city of New Orleans, Louisiana, on the second Wednesday of April, 1872.

Resolved, That the representation to said Convention shall be two from each State or Territory at large, and one for each twenty thousand colored voters, and one for each fractional part over ten thousand, to be elected as the State may determine.

Pursuant to authority vested in me under the foregoing resolutions, I hereby call upon the colored people of the United States to elect and commission delegates to assemble in convention on the day and at the place mentioned at twelve o'clock M., to consider their political and material interests.

The ratio of representation as laid down in the foregoing resolutions, is expected to be strictly adhered to.

Respectfully,
ALONZO J. RANSIER,
President of the "Southern States Convention of Colored Men."

Papers friendly to the cause of equality before the law and the material interests of the colored people will please copy.

—The New York *Commercial Advertiser* says that attempting to flog editors is an unprofitable business. Shoveling off snow or driving a charcoal wagon for a living pays better in the long run. A hostile visitor to an editorial sanctum finds that the best side of the building for him to be on is the outside. We have heard of individuals equipping themselves and approaching an editor for the avowed purpose of "cleaning him out," but they have always gone away with the conviction that they were born for some less active pursuit.

—A hint to parents. Do all in your power to teach your children self-government. If a child is passionate, teach him by patient and by gentle means to curb his temper; if he is greedy, cultivate liberality in him; if he is selfish, promote generosity.

NEWS CLIPPINGS.

—There were 36,866 volumes taken from the public library at Boston last month, a daily average of 1,536; 16,955 persons visited the reading room, and 808 new names were registered.

—Of the 128 members of the New York House of Representatives but 23 are married. And yet these industrious single fellows get right along with their stealing just as if they all had large families to support.

—In the Green Bay (Wisconsin) postoffice a notice is posted up which reads as follows: "Price of 3-cent stamps, 3 cents each; licked and stuck, 5 cents each; the clock will answer the question, 'Has the mail closed?'"

—Mr. Storey, of the Chicago *Times*, says that his paper has made more money in three months since the fire than in any one year previous. He expects to cover his losses in two years, and have a better building than he lost.

—An eccentric German shoemaker at Indianapolis, who subscribed for all the papers published in the city, and the leading journals of New York and Cincinnati, and who scarcely ever left his work bench, died last week, having accumulated a fortune of $50,000.

—What else had he a right to expect? General S. Cooper, who resigned the Adjutant Generalship of the United States army to join the Confederate army in our late civil war, is now living in want in Virginia at the age of seventy years. A proposal has been made to raise a fund for his relief.

—John Tyler, son of the ex-President, has forsworn the dogmas of Democracy, and announces his belief that the national safety and prosperity can only come through a perpetuation of Republicanism. This conviction, too, he has reached in a State of such unimpressive Republicanism as Florida.

—Madame Moor, a female pedestrian, published a card in the Cincinnati papers Saturday, challenging Weston, or any other man, to walk against her for $1,000 a side. She is an athletic woman, and claims to have made one hundred miles in 23 hours and 28 minutes, and fifty miles in 9 hours and 50 minutes.

—The testimony of Generals Babcock and Porter before the investigating committee on the sale of arms to the French, has turned out to be rather a damaging experiment to the enemies of General Grant. These gentlemen have not only vindicated themselves, but strengthened the Administration in the minds of the people.

—Prince Henry, son of the Crown Prince of the German Empire, has been apprenticed to a bookbinder in Berlin. The Leipsic *Tageblatt* of the 2d instant states that the Crown Prince is a compositor, and gives a song which was sung by the men of the office to which he belonged on the occasion of his marriage to the Princess Victoria of England.

—Next to Massachusetts, Connecticut has the largest deposit in savings banks of any of the New England States. The amount January 1, 1871, was $55,297,705, and now must exceed $60,000,000. In the New England States these deposits now exceed $275,000,000, and perhaps reach $300,000,000. California has between $40,000,000 and $45,000,000.

—They are having some unsavory reminders of the great conflagration in the burnt district of Wisconsin. A man at Peshtigo cleaned out his well lately and found at the bottom the body of a carpenter who was working for him before the fire. It was not a pleasant discovery for the family by any means, but they should have explored that well sooner.

—Some years ago Dickens destroyed an immense accumulation of his correspondence. Dolby described it as taking place on the lawn at Gadshill, and making an immense smoke. Dickens said: "I destroyed the correspondence expressly, because I considered it had been held with me, and not with the public, and because I would not answer for its privacy being respected when I should be dead.

—The Cafe des Aveugles, or Blind Men's Cafe, opposite the Theatre Palais Royal, in Paris, after an existence of nearly a century, has been doomed to destruction. Its subterraneous concert-room was reached after descending a long flight of steps, and the orchestra was entirely composed of blind men. Many antiquated customs were retained, and until recently the cafe was much frequented by literary men.

—A returned miner whose claim had "panned out well" was riding in a San Francisco horse-car the other day, when the conductor came along to collect fares. As the latter reached for his change in a side pocket, he was somewhat taken aback by the production of a formidable five-shooter from the miner's hip-pocket, accompanied by the exclamation, "Look hyer, stranger, I kim from the mountains, but you can't get the drop on me."

—A magnificent piano, which possesses a history, is shortly to be sold at auction at Metz. This instrument was manufactured for the Prince Imperial of France by the piano manufacturers of that country, and during the war fell into the hands of the Prussians. It was thought that the Emperor William would have restored it to its youthful owner, but, more business like, it seems that he has determined to put it up at auction for what it will fetch.

—The Japanese jugglers have always been known to surpass all Western performers in the line of prestigation, but a letter describes a scene as witnessed by the chief officer of a merchant ship from this country, while at Nangasaki, which shows expertness brought to its acme. In the first place, the performer took an ordinary peg top, and set it to spinning in the air, and catching it on his hand, he transferred it to the keen edge of a sword blade, making it traverse from hilt to point and back again, by inclining the sword, the top spinning all the while. Another marvellous feat performed was to set the top spinning in the air, and then to throw the end of the string towards it, and cause it to wind itself with the string, the other end being retained in the hand, so that the top returned to the hand properly wound, and ready to be spun again.

—Mr. Charles Dickens, Jr., rushes into print, to deny relationship with two young theatrical ladies named Long. This consanguinity was alleged to exist by a provincial correspondent of a London paper, who wrote as follows: "We understand that Miss Jennie Long, the intelligent young actress who personates so charmingly *Little Red Riding Hood*, is a niece of the late Mr. Charles Dickens, her mother being a sister of the great novelist; another of whose nieces is also here, in the person of a younger sister, Miss Bessie Long, who appears in the Pantomime as a Fairy."—To this Mr. Dickens furnished a prompt and brusque response, remarking that this "statement is absolutely and entirely untrue. The young ladies in question, of whom I now hear for the first time, are not the nieces, nor is their mother the sister, of my late father. It would be interesting to know from whom your correspondent obtained his information; and I think I have a right to ask, who is originally responsible for this false announcement."—Mr. Dickens was not long left without further light—receiving it, as follows, from the father of the young Long ladies, Mr. Charles Long. This writer's language is explicit, and to this effect: "Your Hanley correspondent merely erred in the degree of relationship. It should have been 'cousins,' not nieces, of the late Charles Dickens, by his mother's 'Barrows' side. If Mr. Dickens wishes further information, I would refer him to his aunt, my mother, Mrs. Jane Long, 90 Regina-villas, Tollington-park, Islington, London."—The immense importance of this impressive controversy will be perceived at a glance by all readers.